

Message Text

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45

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-12 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 AID-20 OPR-02 M-03 A-01 SY-07

RSR-01 /169 W

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R 061510 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7195

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION UN

EUCOM

USDOCOSOUTH

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 774

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS CY

SUBJECT: MURDER OF MAKARIOS SUPPORTER CHANGES NATURE
OF GRIVAS TERRORISM

SUMMARY: FIRST POLITICAL SLAYING OF PRO- MAKARIOS LEFTIST
RAISES MAKARIOS- GRIVAS STRUGGLE TO NEW LEVEL.

1. VIOLENCE AMONG GREEK CYPRIOTS HAS TAKEN ON NEW DIMENSION
WITH FIRST POLITICAL KILLING SINCE GRIVAS TERRORISM BEGAN. GEORGE
PHOTIOU, 25 YEAR OLD ACTIVE SUPPORTER OF MAKARIOS AND APPARENTLY
MEMBER OF LYSSARIDES LEFTIST EDEK PARTY, WAS SHOT AND KILLED
WHILE DRIVING IN LARNACA EVENING APRIL 5 BY THREE ARMED MEN
IN ANOTHER CAR. KILLERS WERE APPARENTLY SEEN FLEEING FROM
SCENE OF SHOOTING, BUT HAVE NOT BEEN APPREHENDED DESPITE POLICE
ROADBLOCKS SET UP AROUND LARNACA.

2. PHILELEFTHEROS AND TA NEA APRIL 6 GIVE NAMES OF KILLERS
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AS KYRIACOS KOUPPIS, MARIOS KAKIS AND CLAVDIOS NICOLAOU, PHILELEFTHEROS ADDING THAT POLICE HAVE ISSUED ARREST WARRANTS FOR THREE MEN. FIRST TWO ARE KNOWN TO EMBASSY AS SMALL TIME EX- EOKA GUNMEN.

3. COMMENT: CHANCES SEEM DANGEROUSLY HIGH TO US THAT LYSSARIDES GUNMEN WILL AVENGE THIS KILLING, AND THAT RESTRAINTS OBSERVED SO FAR BY BOTH SIDES WILL BEGIN TO CRUMBLE. LARNACA ITSELF IS SOMETHING OF A TINDERBOX, WITH STRONG GRIVAS AND MAKARIOS CAMPS THAT HAVE PRACTICALLY CEASED COMMUNICATING, AND WITH CAR BOMBINGS AND BRAWLS A DAILY OCCURRENCE. (IN LAST DAY AND HALF, FOUR BOMBS HAVE EXPLODED UNDER CARS IN LARNACA -- ALL APPARENTLY AGAINST GRIVASITES.)

4. FONMIN CHRISTOPHIDES, WHO TENDS TO BE EXCITABLE ABOUT THESE MATTERS, WAS DEPRESSED AND APPREHENSIVE IN TALK WITH AMB APRIL 6. HE FEARS THAT GROWING VIOLENCE MIGHT CRIPPLE GOVT, AND PRODUCE ANARCHIC CONDITIONS WHICH WOULD IMPAIR GOVT AUTHORITY, INTER-COMMUNAL TALKS, AND ECONOMICALLY IMPORTANT TOURIST TRAFFIC. SAYS POSITION OF GREECE REMAINS INSCRUTABLE (THIS DESPITE RECENT EVIDENCE OF SOME IMPROVEMENT IN RELATIONS). WE CONSIDER THIS ANALYSIS RATHER FARFETCHED AS OF NOW, BUT THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT WITH LAST NIGHTS MURDER THINGS MAY MOVE IN THIS DIRECTION.
POPPER

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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